CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A dispersion compensating fiber, comprising:

a refractive index profile having

a central core segment with

an inner peak having a relative refractive index $\Delta_i\%$ located at a radius r_i of between 0.0 μm and 1.0 $\mu m,$

an outer peak with a relative refractive index $\Delta_1\%$ located at a radius r_o between 1.5 μm and 2.5 μm , and

a trough positioned between the inner peak and outer peak having a minimum relative refractive index $\Delta_t\%$ less than both $\Delta_i\%$ and $\Delta_1\%$,

a moat segment, surrounding the central core segment, having a relative refractive index $\Delta_2\%$, and

a ring segment, surrounding the moat segment, having a positive relative refractive index $\Delta_3\%$ wherein $\Delta_t\%$ and $\Delta_3\%$ are greater than $\Delta_2\%$.

- 2. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 having a total dispersion at 1550 nm of between -50 and -100 ps/nm/km.
- 3. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 4 having a total dispersion slope at 1550 nm of -1.0 to -2.5 ps/nm²/km.
- 4. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 having a kappa, defined as a ratio of total dispersion at 1550 nm divided by total dispersion slope at 1550 nm, of less than 100 nm.
- 5. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 having an effective area at 1550 nm of greater than $20 \, \mu m^2$.
- 6. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 5 having an effective area at 1550 nm of greater than 25 μ m².

- 7. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 wherein the inner peak index Δ_i % is between 0.5% to 2.0%.
- 8. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 wherein the inner peak is located at a radius r_i of between 0.0 μm and 0.85 μm .
- 9. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 wherein the outer peak index Δ_1 % is between 0.9% to 2.0%.
- 10. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 wherein the outer peak is located at a radius r_0 between 1.4 μm and 2.4 μm .
- 11. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 wherein the minimum trough index Δ_t % is between 0.3% to 1.0%.
- 12. An optical fiber span, comprising:

a transmission fiber operating in a wavelength band having a center operating wavelength, and

the dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 optically coupled to the transmission fiber, wherein a dispersion minima of the dispersion compensating fiber is positioned at least 55 nm above the center operating wavelength.

13. An optical fiber span, comprising:

a transmission fiber operating in a wavelength band having a center operating wavelength, and

the dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 optically coupled to the transmission fiber, wherein a residual dispersion of the span is less than +/- 25 ps/nm per 100 km of the transmission fiber over a wavelength band of between about 1527 to 1567 nm.

- 14. A dispersion compensating module comprising the dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1.
- 15. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 having a kappa, defined as a ratio of total dispersion to total dispersion slope at 1550 nm, of between 35 nm to 65 nm.
- 16. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 wherein Δ_2 % is less than -0.5%.
- 17. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 1 wherein the relative refractive index $\Delta_3\%$ of the ring segment is greater than 0.4%.
- 18. The dispersion compensating fiber of claim 17 wherein $\Delta_3\%$ is between 0.5% to 1.0%.
- 19. A dispersion compensating fiber, comprising:
 - a refractive index profile having
 - a central core segment with
- an inner peak with a relative refractive index $\Delta_i\%$ in the range from 0.7% to 2.0% located at a radius r_i of between 0.0 μm and 1.0 μm ,
- an outer peak with a relative refractive index $\Delta_1\%$ in the range from 0.7% to 2.0% located at a radius r_o between 1.5 μm and 2.5 μm , and
- a trough positioned between the inner peak and the outer peak having a minimum trough index $\Delta_t\%$ in the range from 0.3% to 1.0% wherein $\Delta_t\%$ is less than both $\Delta_i\%$ and $\Delta_1\%$,
- a moat segment, surrounding the central core segment, having a negative relative refractive index $\Delta_2\%$ more negative than -0.5%, and
- a ring segment, surrounding the moat segment, having a relative refractive index $\Delta_3\%$ greater than 0.4%.

- 20. A dispersion compensating fiber, comprising:
 - a refractive index profile having

a central core segment with

an inner peak with a relative refractive index $\Delta_i\%$ in the range from 0.5% to 2.0% located at a radius r_i of between 0.0 μm and 0.85 μm ,

an outer peak with a relative refractive index $\Delta_l\%$ in the range from 0.9% to 2.0% located at a radius r_o between 1.5 μm and 2.5 μm , and

a trough positioned between the inner peak and the outer peak having a minimum trough index $\Delta_t\%$ in the range from 0.3% to 1.0% wherein $\Delta_t\%$ is less than both $\Delta_t\%$ and $\Delta_1\%$,

a moat segment, surrounding the central core segment, having a negative relative refractive index $\Delta_2\%$ between about -0.5 to -1.0%, and

a ring segment, surrounding the moat segment, having a relative refractive index $\Delta_3\%$ of between about 0.5 to 1.0%.